



A holiday feast of comedy, cartoons, horror, romance and adventure

BIG names, big adventure, big romance and big laughs will return to the big screen when the film companies release their big guns for the summer.

Topping the list for the most awaited and unusual film is Michael Jackson's *Moonwalker*. Described as "a visual journey into the hopes and dreams within us all", the big-budget adventure has Jackson pitting "himself and all his powers" against the evil Mr Big (Joe Pesci) whose ambition it is to get children hooked on drugs. Jackson's young co-stars include Sean Lennon.

Young Einstein (PG) is set to be the major Australian-made holiday attraction. This rock 'n roll comedy was written and directed by its star, Yahoo Serious, who plays the title character of a young Tasmanian apple farmer who split the atom in 1905 and discovered rock 'n roll in 1906.

Established Australian star

HOT

SUMMER



Bryan Brown stirs up some fun opposite Tom Cruise in *Cocktail*. Brown plays the bartender mentor to Cruise, who discovers pouring drinks and putting on a killer smile for the prettiest women in Manhattan isn't a bad way to earn a living — until he falls in love.

Tom Cruise's brat-pack friends form the heart-throb cast of *Young Guns* (M). Based on the true story of the legendary Billy The Kid, Lou Diamond Phillips, Keifer Sutherland and brothers Emilio Estevez and Charlie Sheen star in this exciting Western.

The laughs will come thick and fast in a host of great comedies, the most timely of which is *Scrooged*. Based loosely on the classic story *A Christmas Carol*, Bill Murray stars as a television network president who intends to exploit the festive season — but ends up learning the

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TOP LEFT: Tom Cruise and Bryan Brown in *Cocktail*. ABOVE: Yahoo Serious in the *Young Einstein*. LEFT: *Young Guns* stars — from left, Dermot Mulroney, Charlie Sheen, Casey Siemaszko, Emilio Estevez, Keifer Sutherland and Lou Diamond Phillips. RIGHT: Michael Jackson in *Moonwalker*.





MOVIES!



ABOVE: Carol Kane and Bill Murray in *Scrooged*. TOP: Bob Hoskins and his animated co-star in *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*. RIGHT: Sally Field in *Punchline*.



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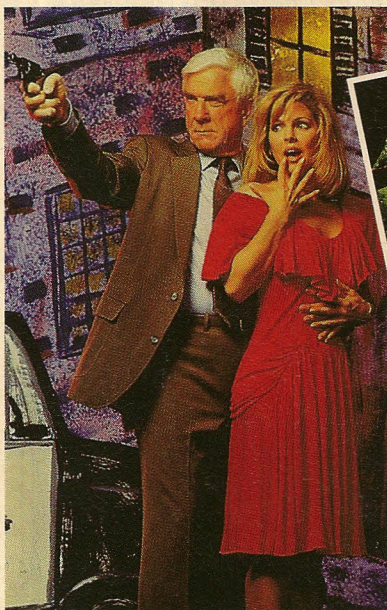
true meaning of Christmas. Also, distinguished actors Michael Caine and Ben Kingsley continue the comedy capers in *Without A Clue* (PG). The film is a reversal of the famous Sherlock Holmes story, with Dr Watson (Kingsley) as a brilliant, but uncharismatic, sleuth who employs an actor (Caine) to live the role of Holmes. Michael Caine also will be seen soon with Steve Martin in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, playing one of two charming conmen.

Tom Hanks once again tickles the funnybone in *Punchline* (M). Hanks and Sally Field star as two comics from very different backgrounds.

Romance and comedy combine in *My Stepmother Is An Alien*. Dan Aykroyd plays a widower who, to the dismay of his daughter, marries a beautiful extra-terrestrial (Kim Basinger).

Priscilla Presley makes her feature film debut in *The Naked Gun*, an outrageous cops and robbers romp co-starring Leslie Nielsen.

Married To The Mob is an-



ABOVE: Don Ameche (left), Ray Walston (centre) and Wilford Brimley, who star in *Cocoon: The Return*. RIGHT: Robert Englund as Freddy Krueger in *Nightmare On Elm Street 4: The Dream Master*.



TOP: Dawn Downing and Mark Vande Brake in *Willow*. ABOVE LEFT: Priscilla Presley and Leslie Nielsen in *The Naked Gun*. Inset: A scene from *Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs*.

other romantic comedy. Michelle Pfeiffer plays a gangster's widow who falls in love with an FBI agent (Matthew Modine).

Comedy will bridge the generation gap with the late-November release of *Who Framed Roger Rabbit* (PG). It is superb animation, combined with real-life performances from Bob Hoskins and other stars.

Walt Disney animated classics are always popular and this year the enduring *Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs* (G) returns for its 50th anniversary.

Another animated feature will be *The Care Bears' Adventure In Wonderland* (G).

The New Adventures Of Pippi Longstocking (G) is a great fun children's film based on the popular books of the same name. Eileen Brennan and Dick Van Patten star in this tale of the "strongest girl in the world".

Older audiences and youngsters will enjoy the new George Lucas film, *Willow* (PG), directed by Ron

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Howard. Val Kilmer co-stars with Warwick Davis as a young man who "lives an adventure that explodes beyond the boundaries of his own hopes and fears".

Another great family flick is *Cocoon: The Return*. This sequel to the 1985 movie has the senior citizens from the planet Anterea returning to Earth. Steve Guttenberg stars with Don Ameche, Wilford

Brimley and Maureen Stapleton.

Other sequels to screen include the horror *Fright Night 2* (M), and the murderous Freddy Krueger is back in *A Nightmare On Elm Street 4: The Dream Master* (M).

Also coming is a scary remake of the 1958 Hollywood B-grade movie *The Blob* (M). This time blob is meaner, faster, more menacing and much bigger.

Adventure comes to the screen with the Australian-New Zealand co-production, *The Navigator*. The 1988 AFI winner of Best Film tells of some medieval miners who find themselves in a modern city.

A Summer Story (PG) is about a



ABOVE: Joan Allen and Jeff Bridges in Tucker: The Man And His Dream. BOTTOM: Imogen Stubbs in A Summer Story.

DEFECT TO COSSACK!



beautiful young country girl (Imogen Stubbs) who falls in love with a traveller (James Wilby). When he doesn't return, she goes searching for him.

In *Crossing Delancey* (PG) Amy Irving stars as a single Manhattan woman hurled into romantic adventure when her grandmother hires a match-maker.

The sleeper of the year should be Tucker: *The Man And His Dream* (PG), based on the real-life story of American car manufacturer, Preston Tucker (Jeff Bridges).

Another film based on a true story is *A World Apart*. Shot in Zimbabwe, Barbara Hershey plays a mother who fights apartheid.

Farewell To The King features Nick Nolte and Nigel Havers in the story of a British soldier who unites the tribes of Borneo against the Japanese.

Kelly Bourne

